MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

LINCOLN LABORATORY

47 G -0022

QUATERNARY CYCLIC CODES

Gustave Solomon

13 September 1961

The work reported in this document was performed at Lincoln Laboratory, a center for research operated by Massachusetts Institute of Technology; this work was supported by the U. S. Advanced Research Projects Agency under Air Force Contract AF19(604)-7400(ARPA Order 56-61).

LEXINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

QUATERNARY CYCLIC CODES

by

G. Solomon

ABSTRACT

We consider cyclic codes for the quaternary alphabet, the field $K = GF(2^2)$. If A is a (k,n) (n odd) quaternary group codes - i.e., a k-dimensional subspace of ordered n-tuples of K elements - then A is isomorphic via the Solomon-Mattson polynomials, to a subgroup of the direct product of K with r copies of L. (L is the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity and r is the number of irreducible factors of $x^n + 1/x + 1$ over K.)

Let $d(A,K)$ be the minimum weight of non-zero vectors of A. For p, a prime, and A, a (k,p) cyclic K code, $d(A,K) \geq d(A,F)$ where $d(A,F)$ is the Bose-Chaudhuri bound for the corresponding binary cyclic codes of the same order (if there is one). Number theoretic methods are introduced to improve the Zierler-Gorenstein lower bound for certain primes p. For p such that 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, there exists $(p+1/2, p)$ cyclic codes with $d(p) \geq 3$ if 3 is not a quadratic residue of p, $d(p) \geq 4$ if 3 is a quadratic residue of p, and $d \geq 5$ if both 3 and 5 are quadratic residues of p.

GS:jj

I. Introduction

In this report we consider cyclic codes for the special alphabet of 2^2 symbols. Interest in coding for this particular alphabet arose from private discussions with Dr. Robert Price. The work of M. Golay[4] in the penny-weighing problem gives general results for alphabet of p^m symbols. In addition, Zierler and Gorenstein[5] have formulated decoding procedures for cyclic codes using p^m symbols. We apply the methods of (2) and (3) to treat the special case. We improve the previous error correcting estimates and indicate how number-theoretic properties of primes enter in the general problem. The results are easily analogized to p^2 symbol alphabets and from there generalizable to p^m symbols.

II. Preliminaries

The alphabet we wish to encode shall be elements of the field $K = GF(2^2)$ of degree 2 over F ; the field of two elements. K contains the elements $0, 1, \alpha, \alpha^2$ subject to addition modulo 2 and the rule $\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 = 0$. We are interested in linear mappings of $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$ for n odd. These are the (k, n) group codes. We shall consider here a subclass of these codes which are generated by linear recursion. We derive the general error-correcting properties for these codes and give algorithms for particular (p) to improve the general estimates.

Let $a = (a_o, a_1, \ldots a_{n-1})$ be a vector of $V_n(K)$. Following (2), (3) we associate a polynomial of degree less than or equal $(n-1)$ to the vector a, such that $g_a(\beta^i) = a_i$ where β is a fixed primitive generator of the n^{th} roots of unity. Corresponding to $a = (0, \ldots 0)$ we put $g_a(x) = 0$. Putting $g_a(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_i x^i$ and using $g_a(\beta^i) \in K$ for $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n-1$, we obtain the condition that

$$g_a(x)^4 = g_a(x) \text{ for } x = \beta^i \quad i = 0, 1, \ldots n-1$$

which yields

$$(\Sigma\, c_i\, x^i)^4 = (\Sigma\, c_i\, x^i)\,.$$

Reducing the powers of x modulo n gives us conditions on the c_i

$$c_o^4 = c_o\,;\quad c_{4i} = c_i^4 \qquad 1 \le i \le n-1\,.$$

The constants are now partitioned into mutually disjoint classes. Thus the polynomial $g_a(x)$ has in reality very few independent constants. Those are $c_o, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \ldots c_{i_{r-1}}$ where c_1 is the coefficient of x ; c_{i_1} is the coefficient of x^{i_1} where i_1 is the smallest integer such that $i_1 \neq 4^s$ (modulo n) for any s; i_2 is the smallest integer larger than i_1 such that $i_2 \neq 4^s$ or $i_2 \neq 4^{si_1}$ modulo n and so on.

The polynomial $g_a(x)$ can therefore be written as

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) = c_o + c_1 x + c_1^4 x^4 + c_1^{4\cdot 2} x^{16} \ldots \\ c_{i_1} x^{i_1} + c_{i_1}^4 x^{4i_1} + \ldots \\ c_{i_2} x^{i_2} + c_{i_2}^4 x^{4i_2} + \ldots \\ c_{i_{r-1}} x^{i_{r-1}} + c_{i_{r-1}}^4 x^{4i_{r-1}} + \ldots \end{aligned}$$

The coefficients c_i can also be given by the Reed formula

$$c_o = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i$$

$$c_1 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i\, \beta^{-i}$$

$$c_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i (\beta^i)^{-k}$$

Thus c_o is in $K = GF(2^2)$ and the c_k are contained in the smallest field L over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity. This also follows from the conditions $c_{4i} = c_i^4$.

Thus to every code word $a \in V_n(K)$ is associated a unique* set of $(r(n) + 1)$ constants $(c_o, c_1, c_{i_1}, \ldots c_{i_{r-1}})$. This correspondence is linearly additive (3). In particular, to every subgroup $V_k(K)$ of $V_n(K)$ is associated a subgroup G of the direct product of K with r copies of L. Actually $V_n(K)$ is the direct product of fields $K \times L_1 \times L_2 \ldots \times L_r$ where L_j is a subfield (proper or improper) of L and the degree (L/L_j) = order of i_j modulo n. If n is a prime, the $L_j = L$ all j and G for $V_n(K) = K \times L^r$. For example, $n = 9$ $G_9(K) \cong G = K \times L \times L \times K \times K$, deg $(L/K) = 3$. For $n = 5$ $G = K \times L^2$, deg $(L/K) = 2$.***

We are concerned with the number $r(n) + 1$ of independent constants at our disposal. The alphabet $K = GF(2^2)$ is algebraically more fortunate than the alphabet F**, $r(n)$ for F is sometimes 1. We have, however, for our case

<u>Lemma 1</u>: For n odd, $r(n) \geq 2$.

<u>Proof</u>: $r(n) = 1$ implies that $4^h \equiv 1$ modulo n has $h = n-1$ as its smallest positive integer solution. Since 2 is prime to odd n we must have that $2^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1$ (modulo n) where $\phi(n)$ is the (Euler) number of integers prime to n. For n odd, $\phi(n)$ is even (2m). We have therefore $4^m \equiv 1$ (modulo n) and $m < n-1$. Thus $r(n) \geq 2$ q.e.d.

There are thus non-trivial cyclic codes for every odd n. In particular, the map $(c_o, c, 0, 0, \ldots) \to g(c_o, c, 0, 0; x = \beta^i)$, $i = 0, \ldots n-1$ gives us a cyclic code over K of dimension $(1 + s)$

---

*Note that this depends on the choice of β.

**See (3).

***A correction of an earlier oversight in(3) thanks to S. Shatz.

where s = degree of L/K where L is the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity. The codes we shall consider are obtained by setting any of the c_i, $i \neq 0$, equal to zero. The groups of code words corresponding to this set (via $g(\beta^i)$) are generated by linear recursive sequences associated with finite difference equations.

Let $V_k(K)$ be a subgroup of $V_n(K)$ which corresponds to the set $(c_0, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \ldots c_{i_{r-1}})$ where at least one of the $c_i = 0$. Then for β a primitive n^{th} root of unity, we form the polynomial $f(x)$ over K in the following manner.

$$f(x) = \Pi f_j(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{k} d_i x^i$$

where $f_j(x)$ is the irreducible polynomial over K with β^{i_j} * as a root. If k is the degree of $f(x)$ then we associate to $f(x)$ the difference equation of order k

$$d_k y_{n+k} + d_{k-1} y_{n+k-1} + \ldots d_1 y_m = 0$$

The d_i are in K and for any k initial values in K we obtain a sequence of elements in K of period n. There is then the natural mapping of $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$ arising by taking the sequence of length n generated by any initial sequence of length k. This is a standard cyclic code over the alphabet K.

III. Error Correction Properties

We define the weight $w(a)$ of a vector a in $V_n(K)$ as the number of non-zero coordinates of a. It is immediate that $\omega(a + b) \leq \omega(a) + \omega(b)$ and $\omega(a) = 0$ if and only if $a = 0$. We may define a metric on $V_n(K)$ by putting $d(a, b) = \omega(a + b)$. As in the binary symbol case, a (k, n) group code is said to be r error correcting if $d(0, a) \geq 2r + 1$ for a, any non-zero vector. Thus, the error correcting properties are given by the minimum weight d of any non-zero a, i.e., n minus the number of zero coordinates of the

*i_j corresponds to $c_{i_j} \neq 0$.

vector a . Since to every vector of our imbedded space V_k is associated a polynomial $g_a(x)$, we need only look at the number of zeros of $g_a(x)$ on our multiplicative group of n^{th} roots of unity to ascertain its weight.

IV. General Results

Let n be odd and let $f(x) \in K[x]$ (the ring of polynomials over K) divide $x^n + 1$. Let ζ be a primitive n^{th} root of unity. We define

$$E|\zeta| = \{e;\ 0 \leq e < n\ ,\ f(\zeta^e) = 0\}$$

Then if f(x) defines the recursion which imbeds $V_k(K)$ into $V_n(K)$, the associated polynomials $g_a(x)$ have degree at most m , the largest integer in $E(\zeta)$. Then we have

Theorem 1:* Let β^{d_o} be the least positive power of β which is a root of f(x) then $d \geq d_o$.

Proof: It suffices to prove that for some primitive n^{th} root of unity ζ , the set $E(\zeta)$ has $n-d_o$ as maximum. Then the number of zeros of $g_a(x)$ is at most $n-d_o$, so the weight of a is at least $n - (n-d_o) \geq d_o$.

We are given that $\beta, \beta^2, \ldots \beta^{d_o - 1}$ are not roots of f(x) and that β^{d_o} is a root of f(x). It follows immediately that $E(\zeta)$ for $\zeta = \beta^{-1}$ does not contain $n-1, n-2, \ldots n-(d_o - 1)$ but does contain $n - d_o$. This proof is from Mattson-Solomon(2).

We note that the set $E(\zeta)$ which are the powers of x in $g_a(x)$ contains 4e modulo n if it contains e. If $E(\zeta)$ contains 2e modulo n for every e, then the polynomial $g_a(x)$ has the same power of x as the g_a for K = F. This holds if $2 = 4^s$ modulo n or $2 = 2^{2s}$ or $2^{2s-1} = 1$ modulo n, i.e., 2 has odd order modulo n. For such p, the bound on d one obtains without investigating the coefficients is the Bose-Chaudhuri bound for the binary cyclic code of the same dimension.

Now where 2 does not have odd order, we get a very small general estimate of d_o, which we will improve here. In particular

---

*This theorem for K = F was proven in a different form first by Bose-Chaudhuri. For $K = GF(p^m)$, the Galois field of p^m elements, this was done by Zierler-Gorenstein.

for $p \equiv \pm 3$ (8) where 2 has order $p-1$, we obtain $d \geq 3$. We can improve this for particular p of this type and indeed give a general algorithm.

We now present two lemmas on polynomials which we shall need for error correcting properties.

<u>Lemma 2</u>: Let $g(x) = b_{p-1} x^{p-1} + b_m x^m + \ldots b_o$ where $b_i \in F$, $i = 0, \ldots p-1$ and $b_m b_{p-1} \neq 0$. Then $g(x)$ can have at most $m + 1$ zeros on Z, the group of p^{th} roots of unity. Translated into coding terms, if $g(x) = g_a(x)$ of a vector a, than $\omega(a) \geq p - (m + 1)$.

<u>Proof:</u> Let r be the number of roots of $g(x)$ $\{\beta_1, \ldots \beta_r\}$ in Z. Let $(\gamma_1, \ldots \gamma_{p-r-1})$ be the other roots of $g(x)$ contained in some suitable extension field. Let $\beta'_1, \ldots \beta'_{p-r}$ denote the elements of Z which are not roots of $g(x)$. Denote by $s(\beta, i)$, $s(\beta', i)$, $s(\gamma, i)$ respectively the sums of products of (β, β', γ) taken i at a time, $(s(-, 0) = 1)$. We have for the first $\ell \leq p-1 - (m + 1)$ values

$$\sum_{i+j=\ell} s(\beta, i)\, s(\beta', j) = \sum_{i+j=\ell} s(\beta, i)\, s(\gamma, j) = 0$$

since the appropriate coefficients in $x^p + 1$ and $g(x)$ are both zero. It then follows that for $j \leq \ell$

$$s(\beta', j) = s(\gamma, j)$$

If $p-r \leq p-m-2$, $s(\beta', p-r) = 0$ since $s(\gamma, p-r) = 0$. $s(\beta', p-r) = \Pi\, \beta'_1 \cdot \beta'_{p-r} = 0$ gives us a contradiction. Therefore $p-r \geq p-m-1$ or $r \leq m + 1$. q.e.d.

<u>Lemma 3</u>: Let $g(x) = b_{p-2} x^{p-2} + b_m x^m + \ldots b_o$ where $b_i \in F$ $i = 0, \ldots p-2$ and $b_m b_{p-2} \neq 0$ $m \geq 1$. Then for primes p where $x^p + 1/1 + x$ is irreducible over F, $g(x)$ can have at most $(m + 1)$ zeros on Z. $(d \geq p - (m + 1)$.

<u>Proof:</u> Let $\{\beta_1, \ldots \beta_r\}$, $\{\beta^1, \ldots \beta^1{}_{p-r}\}$, $\{\gamma_1, \ldots \gamma_{p-2-r}\}$ be as in Lemma 2.

For $\ell \leq (p-2) - (m+1)$, we have

$$\sum_{i+j=\ell} s(\beta, i)\, s(\beta^1, \gamma) = \sum_{i+j=\ell} s(\beta, i)\, s(\gamma, \gamma) = 0$$

and for $j \leq \ell$ it follows that $s(\beta^1, j) = s(\gamma, j)$.

If $p-r \leq p-m-2$ or $p-r-1 \leq p-m-3$, $s(\beta^1, p-\gamma-1) = 0$ since $s(\gamma, p-r-1) = 0$ but $s(\beta^1, p-r-1)$ is the sum of $(p-r)$ things taken $(p-r-1)$ at a time.

$$\binom{p-r}{p-r-1} = (p-r) \text{ elements of } Z.$$

If $p-r \leq p-1$, i.e., $r > 1$, this is imposible since $x^p + 1/1+x$ is irreducible so we get contradiction. So

$$p-r \geq p-m-1$$

$$r \leq m+1 \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

<u>Theorem 1:</u> For p a prime where 2 has multiplicative order $p-1$, there exist $(\frac{p+1}{2}, p)$ cyclic quaternary codes which correct at least one error.

The desired codes shall be vectors of the form $g_a(\beta^i)$ where $g_a(x)$ is parametrized by a pair of constants (c_o, c) $(c_o \in K$, $c \in GF(2^{p-1}))$, β a primitive p^{th} root of unity. The choice of the g will depend upon the particular p and will exhibit the error correcting properties immediately. The g's chosen will be either of the type in Lemma 2 or Lemma 3. The lower bound d_o obtained will depend clearly on the integer m since for both Lemmas 2 and 3 $d \geq p-(m+1)$. For particular p, we would like a general algorithm for the value of m. It is in the nature of these particular p, that we may use the theory of quadratic residues to make simple decisions as to which set of g to choose and what value of m occurs. We therefore make a necessary aside and include the appropriate data.

We introduce the Legendre* symbol $(\frac{a}{p})$ for $a = 0$. If $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions in the field of p elements, GF(p), we say that a is a quadratic residue of p. Symbolically $(\frac{a}{p}) = +1$. If a is not a quadratic residue of p we write $(\frac{a}{p}) = -1$.

For primes p where 2 has multiplicative order p-1, i.e., 2 is a primitive generator of the multiplicative group of GF(p), the statement that $a \in GF(p)$ is a power of 4 modulo p translates equivalently into $(\frac{a}{p}) = +1$ and vice versa. For $(\frac{a}{p}) = 1$ means $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions x_o and $p-x_o \in GF(p)$. But $x_o = 2^{\ell}$ for some integer ℓ, since 2 is primitve. Therefore $(2^{\ell})^2 = (2^2)^{\ell} = 4^{\ell} = a$ modulo p -- i.e., a is a power of 4. Note that 2 primitive implies $(\frac{2}{p}) = -1$ since $(\frac{2}{p}) = 1 \Rightarrow 2 = 4^s = 2^{2s}$ or $2^{2s-1} = 1$. $2s-1$ odd divides $p-1$ and 2 not primitive. We also need** and use $(\frac{a}{p})(\frac{b}{p}) = (\frac{ab}{p})$ for a and b prime to p.

<u>Theorem 1'</u>: For p a prime where 2 has multiplicative order p-1, there exist $(\frac{p+1}{2}, p)$ cyclic quaternary codes

a, a') if $(\frac{3}{p}) = -1$, $d \geq 3$

b, b') if $(\frac{3}{p}) = +1$, $d \geq 4$

c) if $(\frac{3}{p}) = +1$ and $(\frac{5}{p}) = +1$ $d \geq 5$

<u>Proof:</u>

a) $(\frac{3}{p}) = -1$

$p = 8n + 3$

Here $(\frac{-1}{p}) = -1$. So by the multiplication formula $(\frac{-3}{p}) = 1$

$$(\frac{-4}{p}) = -1, \quad (\frac{-2}{p}) = +1$$

*See Appendix for properties of $(\frac{a}{p})$.

**Formula 1 in Appendix.

The polynomial $g_a(x) = c_o + c\,x^2 + c^4 x^{2\cdot 4} + c^{4^2} x^{2\cdot 4} + \ldots$ has highest degree $(p-1)$ and next highest power $m = p-4$. Lemma 2 gives us that $d \geq p - (p-4+1) = 3$.

a') $p = 8n + 5$

Here $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = 1$ so $\left(\frac{+3}{p}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{-4}{p}\right) = 1$. Choose

$g_a(x) = c_o + cx + c^4 x^4 + \ldots$

This polynomial again satisfies Lemma 2.

b) $\left(\frac{3}{p}\right) = 1$

Case 1) $p = 8n + 3$, $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = +1$, $\left(\frac{-4}{p}\right) = -1$

Choose $h_a(x) = c_o + cx + c^4 x^4 + \ldots$

Highest degree have is $(p-2)$ and next highest is at most $(p-5)$. So Lemma 3 yields $d \geq 4$.

b') $p = 8n + 5$ $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = 1$, $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) = 1$, $\left(\frac{-4}{p}\right) = 1$, $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = ?$

Choose $h_a(x) = c_o + c\,x^2 + c^4 x^{2\cdot 4} \ldots$

Lemma 3 again applies and $d \geq 4$.

c) If $\left(\frac{5}{p}\right) = +1$, Lemma 3 yields $d \geq 5$.

We note here that $\left(\frac{6}{p}\right) = -1$ for case b since we have $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1$.

We note that we need a detailed version of lemmas 2 and 3 plus new values of $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ to get sharper estimates on the bound.

V. Encoding

Corresponding to the desired $g_a(x)$ or $h_a(x)$ we choose the polynomial $f(x)$ over k whose roots are the appropriate powers of β -- β a primitive p^{th} root of unity. The powers chosen are of course the exponents of x in $g_a(x)$ or $h_a(x)$. We then generate the codes by associating the appropriate difference equation with $f(x)$ subject to $(\frac{p+1}{2})$ initial conditions in K.

VI. Examples

Ex. 1 $p = 5$

Here we have a single error correcting (3-5) cyclic quaternary code.. This (3, 5) code is also obtained by Golay[4] in a different manner.

Here $p \equiv 5$ (modulo 8) and $(\frac{-3}{5}) = -1$, so we choose, as in case a', $g_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4 x^4$, $c_0 \in K$, $c \in L = GF(2^4)$. Choose γ a generator of the multiplicative group L^* of L -- i.e., $\gamma^{15} = 1$ -- say γ satisfies $\gamma^4 + \gamma + 1 = 0$. Let $\beta = \gamma^3$ then β is a primitive 5^{th} root of unity. Let $f(x) = (x+1)(x+\beta)(x+\beta^4)$ $= (x+1)(x^2 + (\beta+\beta^4)x + \beta^5) = (x+1)(x^2 + (\beta+\beta^4)x + 1)$. Now $\beta + \beta^4 \in K$, $\beta + \beta^4 = \gamma^{10}$ say and $\gamma^{10} + \gamma^5 + 1 = 0$. So $f(x) = x^3 + \gamma^5 x^2 + \gamma^5 x + 1$

Consider the associated difference equation

$$y_{n+3} + \gamma^5 y_{n+2} + \gamma^5 y_{n+1} + y_n = 0$$

Any three initial values in K will generate sequences of period 5. This (3, 5) code will correct one error by the general theorem. It is optimum as a computation will verify that it is closely packed.

Ex. 2 The (6-11) c.q. code:

1. Since $(\frac{-3}{11}) = -1$, we are in case b.

$$h_a(x) = c_0 + cx + c^4 x^4 + c^{4^2} x^5 + c^{4^3} x^9 + c^{4^4} x^3$$

Here $m = 5$, so by Lemma 3, the number of roots of $h(x)$ in Z is at most 6, so $d \geq 11 - 6 = 5$.

Putting it in terms of quadratic residues

$$(\frac{-3}{11}) = -1, \quad (\frac{-4}{11}) = -1, \quad (\frac{-5}{11}) = (\frac{6}{11}) = -1$$

<u>Generalization:</u> Let $K = GF(p^m)$ be the Galois field of p^m elements. Consider the group codes of $V_n(K)$ where p and n are relatively prime for $(p, n) = 1$. Each (k, n) group code A corresponds to a set of polynomials indexed by a set of constants $(c_o, c_1, c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \ldots c_{i_{r-1}})$ where r is the number of irreducible factors over K of $(x^n + 1)/(1 + x)$; $c_o \in K$ and $c_i \in L$, the smallest field over K containing the n^{th} roots of unity.* To any group code A is assigned a subgroup G of the direct product of K with r copies of L.

If $m = 2$, then $r(n) \geq 2$ for any p and we have a set of non-trivial cyclic codes obtainable by setting some of the $c_i = 0$. This is also the case if m $(n - 1)$. Error correcting bounds are formulated then in number-theoretic terms analogous to the 2^2 case. If m and $n-1$ are relatively prime, we obtain the cyclic codes corresponding to the p letter case and the general lower bound is the Zierler-Gorenstein one. Improvement on the bound may come from examination of the coefficients of the polynomials themselves.

For n and p^m for which $r(n) = 1$, we may use the procedure outlined in 3), and obtain pseudo-cyclic variations.

---

*As before, we choose β a primitive n^{th} root of unity. Then to each code word $c \in A$ we associate the polynomial $g(x, \beta, c_o, c_{i_o}, \ldots c_{i_{r-1}})$ such that $g(\beta^i) = a_i$.

Algebraic Appendix*

1. The Legendre symbol $(\frac{a}{p})$

Def.: If p is a prime, we say that $a \neq 0$ is a quadratic residue of p (symbolically $(\frac{a}{p}) = +1$) if the equation $x^2 = a$ modulo p has solutions in the field of p elements. Clearly since $x_o{}^2 = (p-x_o)^2$ there are $\frac{p-1}{2}$ quadratic residues of p. We put $(\frac{a}{p}) = -1$ if a is not a quadratic residue.

The following properties of the Legende symbol are well known.

1. $(\frac{a}{p})(\frac{b}{p}) = (\frac{ab}{p})$ for a and b prime to p

2. $(\frac{2}{p}) = 1$ if $p \equiv \pm 1$ Modulo 8

   $(\frac{2}{p}) = -1$ if $p \equiv \pm 3$ Modulo 8

3. $(\frac{-1}{p}) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$

4. Law of Quadratic Reciprocity

   $(\frac{p}{q}) = -(\frac{q}{p})$ if p and q are both of the from $4k - 1$

   $(\frac{p}{q}) = (\frac{q}{p})$ all other cases.

*Le Veque, Topics in Number Theory, Vol. 1, Chapter 5, Addison-Wesley (1956).

Bibliography:

1. Solomon, G., "Linear Recursive Sequences as Finite Difference Equations", Lincoln Laboratory, Group Report 47.37, March 15, 1960.

2. Mattson, H. F. and Solomon, G., "A New Treatment of Bose-Chaudhuri Codes", to appear in Journal of Society of Industrial Applied Math.

3. Solomon, G., "A New Class Of Codes", Lincoln Laboratory, Group Report 47G-0020, April 28, 1961.

4. Golay, M. J. E., "Notes on the Penny-Weighing Problem, Lossless Symbol Coding with Non-Primes, Etc.," I.R.E. Transactions on Information Theory, p. 103-109, September 1958.

5. Gorenstein, D. and Zierler, N., "A Class of Error Correcting Codes in p^m Symbols", Journal of Society of Industrial Applied Math, Vol. 9, No. 2, p. 207-214, June 1961.

6. Le Veque, "Topics in Number Theory", Vol. 1, Chapt. 5, Addison-Wesley, (1956).

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED